1014 Farmington Avenue

Corner of Farmington & Burnham

1915

Part of first Berlin Fairgrounds

Forester’s Hall

1985 Townwide Historic and Architectural Survey of Berlin, Connecticut. Survey # 035

1915 Forester’s Hall present owners:

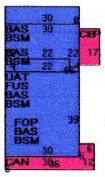
Historically, Forester's Hall is significant as an important community building. The building stands on the site of the first Berlin Fairgrounds and served as the fair's office and principal permanent building. It also was the meeting place of the Foresters, a popular fraternal organization of the early 1900s. About 1920, the fairgrounds were subdivided; the fair was eventually moved (continued)

To the Beckley fairgrounds.

Sketch

2018 Town of Berlin GIS Index.

1930 present owner: LSS



HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY
BUILDING AND STRUCTURES
HIST-6 NEW 5/77

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
59 SOUTH PROSPECT STREET, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
(203) 566-3005

#035

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
Town No.:	Site No.:
UTM	
QUAD:	
DISTRICT ☐ S ☐ NR	IF NR, SPECIFY ☐ Actual ☐ Potential

IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME (Common): Victory Market
(Historic): Forester's Hall

2. TOWN/CITY: Berlin
VILLAGE: Kensington
COUNTY: Hartford

3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location): 1014 Farmington Ave. 9-4/91-9

4. OWNER(S): Richard, Albert LU & Scagliotti, Albert Jr. " " Kensington 06037 ☐ Public ☒ Private

5. USE (Present): Market
(Historic): Market

6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: EXTERIOR VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC ROAD ☒ Yes ☐ No; INTERIOR ACCESSIBLE ☒ Yes ☐ No; IF YES, EXPLAIN: Business hours

DESCRIPTION

7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Vernacular
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: c. 1915

8. MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate)
☐ Clapboard ☐ Asbestos Siding ☒ Brick ☐ Other (Specify) ____
☐ Wood Shingle ☐ Asphalt Siding ☐ Fieldstone
☐ Board & Batten ☐ Stucco ☐ Cobblestone
☐ Aluminum Siding ☐ Concrete Type: ____ ☐ Cut stone Type: ____

9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM
☐ Wood frame ☐ Post and beam ☐ balloon
☒ Load bearing masonry ☐ Structural iron or steel
☐ Other (Specify) ____

10. ROOF (Type)
☒ Gable ☐ Flat ☐ Mansard ☐ Monitor ☐ sawtooth
☐ Gambrel ☐ Shed ☐ Hip ☐ Round ☐ Other (Specify) ____
(Material)
☐ Wood Shingle ☐ Roll Asphalt ☐ Tin ☐ Slate ☒ Gable end to the street
☒ Asphalt shingle ☐ Built up ☐ Tile ☐ Other (Specify) ____ ☐ Ridge parallel to the street

11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 2 1/2
APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 30' x 61'

12. CONDITION (Structural): ☐ Excellent ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated
(Exterior): ☐ Excellent ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated

13. INTEGRITY (Location): ☒ On original site ☐ Moved
WHEN ?
(Alterations): ☒ Yes ☐ No
IF YES, EXPLAIN: Modern storefront

14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES
☐ Barn ☐ Shed ☐ Garage ☐ Other landscape features or buildings (Specify)
☐ Carriage house ☐ Shop ☐ Garden

15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT
☐ Open land ☐ Wood-land ☒ Residential ☐ Scattered buildings visible from site
☒ Commercial ☐ Indus-trial ☐ Rural ☒ High building density

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS
In center of modern Farmington Avenue commercial strip, an area with some surviving older buildings.

(OVER)

035

PHOTO		
PHOTOGRAPHER: HRC		DATE: 11/84
VIEW: SE	NEGATIVE ON FILE: H16	

COMPILED BY		
NAME: Historic Resource Consultants		DATE: 12/84
ORGANIZATION: The Colt Armory		
ADDRESS: 55 Van Dyke Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut 06106		

20 SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATION:

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

17 OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior)

Forester's Hall has a three-bay facade: the first floor has a modern glass storefront under a shallow-pitch roof. Brick walls are laid up in common bond with Flemish variation. Flat-arched facade windows have stone sills and yellow brick lintels; sides are banded with yellow brick; windows on all elevations are fitted with 1-over-1 sash. The molded cornice shows a partial return at the gable ends; the peak is shingled and has a single attic light. All four building corners have a saw-tooth course in yellow brick. First-floor and basement windows on side elevations are segmental-arched with sawtooth yellow brick windows. The right elevation has a gabled roof dormer. Interior detail is modern.

SIGNIFICANCE

18 ARCHITECT | BUILDER

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

Architecturally, Forester's Hall is significant as a good example of 20th-centry vernacular construction. Masonry construction became much less expensive in the early 20th century with the invention of veneering techniques that allowed builders to apply a thin layer of brick or stone on wood-frame buildings. The particular style of construction seen in Forester's Hall, with its heavy use of contrasting-colored brick, was very popular in New England between about 1915 and 1925, and is associated with buildings erected by Italian immigrants.

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SOURCES

Berlin Town Clerk's Office, Map Collection, v. 1, p. 1

21 THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE

[X] None known [ ] Highways [ ] Vandalism [ ] Developers [ ] Other ____

[ ] Renewal [ ] Private [ ] Deterioration [ ] Zoning [ ] Explanation ____

Forester's Hall

19. (continued):

to its present site on Beckley Road. For several decades the building has been operated as the Victory Market, a grocery store.